Public Notice – Environmental Permit

PURPOSE OF NOTICE: To seek public comment on a draft permit from the Department of Environmental Quality to limit air pollution emitted by a facility in Richmond, Virginia.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD: December 24, 2007 to January 22, 2008

PERMIT NAME: Federal Operating Permit issued by DEQ, under the authority of the Air Pollution Control Board

FACILITY NAME, ADDRESS AND REGISTRATION NUMBERS: Philip Morris USA, Inc – Blended Leaf Complex; 2325 Maury Street, Richmond, VA; Registration Numbers: 50080 and 50082. This facility is an Environmental Enterprise participant in Virginia's Environmental Excellence Program.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: Philip Morris USA, Inc. has applied for an amendment to the permit for the Blended Leaf Complex. The facility is located at 3235 Maury Street in Richmond, VA. The facility is classified as a major source of air pollution. The proposed change in emissions would increase Volatile Organic Compound emissions by 23.9 tons per year and decrease particulate matter emissions by 1.7 tons per year. The permit amendment would allow the source to operate a tobacco processing facility.

HOW TO COMMENT: DEQ accepts comments by e-mail, fax or postal mail. All comments must include the name, address and telephone number of the person commenting and be received by DEQ within the comment period. The public may request a public hearing. Written comments must include: 1. The names, mailing addresses and telephone numbers of the person commenting and of all people represented by the citizen. 2. If a public hearing is requested, the reason for holding a hearing, including associated concerns. 3. A brief, informal statement regarding the extent of the interest of the person commenting, including how the operation of the facility or activity affects the citizen. Please note this draft permit is being concurrently reviewed as a proposed permit by the Environmental Protection Agency. The public may review the draft permit and application at the DEQ office named below. The draft permit is also available on the DEQ website at www.deq.virginia.gov. CONTACT FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS, DOCUMENT REQUESTS AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: Alison Sinclair; Piedmont Regional Office, 4949-A Cox Road, Glen Allen, VA 23060; Phone: (804) 527-5155; E-mail: amsinclair@deq.virgnia.gov; Fax: (804) 527-5106